

### **REMARKS TO DETAILED ACTION**

This is a response to the September 29, 2004 Office Action for the above-captioned application. The following remarks are organized by the sections used in the "Detailed Action" section of Examiner's Paper, beginning on page 2 therein:

#### **Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102**

In this paragraph, the Examiner introduces 35 U.S.C. 102(b), and rejects claims 1 through 3 and 7 as anticipated by U. S. Patent No. 5,013,171 to Almond. The Applicants cancel claims 1 through 3 and 7, as herein above directed.

#### **Allowable Subject Matter**

The Examiner indicates that claims 4, and 8 through 11 are objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base and any intervening claims. Therefore, the Applicants have rewritten claim 4 in independent form, to include the elements and limitations of claim 1, and rewritten claims 8 and 9 in independent form, to include the elements and limitations of claim 7. Claims 10 and 11 now depend from rewritten claim 9, and so are allowable in their original form. Additionally, the Applicants have added dependent claims 12 and 13, which are identical to originally presented claims 10 and 11, but depend from independent claim 8 instead of independent claim 9.

The Examiner additionally indicates that Claims 5 and 6 are allowed. Therefore, the Applicants wish to pass claims 5 and 6 on to allowance.

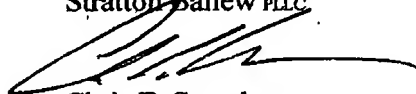
### CONCLUSION

The Applicants believe that all of the Examiner's concerns have been fully addressed and that after due reconsideration in view of the above amendments, independent claims 4, 5, 8 and 9 are in condition for allowance, and dependent claims 6, and 10 through 13, are also allowable. The Applicants therefore respectfully request a withdrawal of all rejections and objections.

If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of the application, he is invited to call Applicants' undersigned representative at (509) 453-1319.

Respectfully submitted,

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### CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMITTAL BY FACSIMILE

I hereby certify that this correspondence, and all referenced documents, are being transmitted via facsimile to the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington D.C. at facsimile number (703) 872-9306 on the following date:

Date: December 29, 2004

Name: Chris E. Svendsen

Signature:

